Department of Administration STATEWIDE PLANNING PROGRAM One Capitol Hill Providence, RI 02908 - 5872

November 18, 2009

Dear Municipal Officials and School Representatives:

The Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program, Department of Transportation and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Steering Committee announce the second **call for proposals** to participate in the **100% federally funded** SRTS Program.

The purpose of this reimbursement program for schools housing grades K-8 is to:

- Enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- Make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of elementary and middle schools.

Examples of eligible activities include:

- The planning, design and construction of infrastructure projects such as sidewalk construction or repair that improve the ability of students to safely walk and bicycle to school:
- The undertaking of non-infrastructure activities such as "walking school buses" and "bike rodeos" that are designed to encourage walking and bicycling to school and the teaching of pedestrian and bicycle safety; and
- The conducting of one day National SRTS Training Courses.

For a more comprehensive list of eligible activities see page 3 of the attached application guide.

To begin discovering what the growing national Safe Routes to School movement is all about, go to the National Safe Routes to School website at: <a href="http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/">http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/</a>.

Eligible applicants include individual public and private schools, entire school districts, municipalities and non-profit 501(c)(3)'s such as Parent Teacher Organizations.

One original signed application and eight hard copies must be submitted to Ms. Ronnie Sirota, RI SRTS Coordinator, RI Statewide Planning Program, Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908 no later than 3:00 PM on February 24, 2010. In addition, an electronic copy should be emailed to rsirota@doa.ri.gov.

Copies of the Application Form, Guide and other applicable resources are enclosed to assist in the proper preparation and submittal of proposals. Microsoft Word and Adobe PDF versions of the Application Form are available for download at: the RI SRTS website at <a href="http://www.planning.ri.gov/transportation/srts/srts.htm">http://www.planning.ri.gov/transportation/srts/srts.htm</a>. It is recommended you read through all the enclosed materials before you begin – this is not the typical transportation infrastructure application.

Two instructional workshops designed to further assist in preparing an application will be conducted on Wednesday, December 16 in Conference Room A at 9:00 a.m. and also at 6:00 p.m. at the RI Department of Administration at One Capitol Hill, Providence (see enclosed flyer). The program will be the same for both times.

Thank you for your consideration of this important 100% federally funded opportunity and please feel free to contact me via telephone at (401) 222-1233 or via email at rsirota@doa.ri.gov with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Sue Sirota

RI Safe Routes to School Coordinator

Ronnie Sue Sirota

## **Enclosures:**

RI SRTS Program Overview
Application Form
Information and Application Guide
Informational Workshop Notice
Project Submission Limit Chart
Engineering Data Sheet
Cost Estimating Guide
Walkability Checklist

## Copied To:

City/Town Chief Executives
School Superintendents
City/Town Planning Directors
City/Town Public Works Directors
RI SRTS Steering Committee
K-8 Principals via email
School nurses and health teachers via email
School committee chairs w/o enclosures